

ADVANCING SPELEOLOGY IN THE AGE OF COVID-19

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

- News about the International Year of Caves and Karst 2021
- UIS BULLETIN: Complete collection now available
- First international cave animal of the year
- UIS Prizes 2021: Call for nominations
- Special issue of the INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF SPELEOLOGY: Call for papers
- 18th ICS: Newsletter N° 2 available

and more...



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**Union Internationale
de Spéléologie**

Founded in Postojna, Slovenia, 1965

The UIS is a non-profit, non-governmental worldwide speleological organization that promotes the development of interaction between academic and technical speleologists of a wide range of nationalities to develop and coordinate international speleology in all of its scientific, technical, cultural and economic aspects.

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Before submitting articles for the UIS Bulletin, please

CLICK HERE!

Deadline for submissions for the next issue (N° 62-2): November 10, 2020

COVER:

Art representing the COVID-19 virus.

Source: Internet

ENGLISH LANGUAGE EDITORS FOR THIS ISSUE:

Heloisa NOVO (Brazil, English Teacher)

George VENI (USA, UIS President)

The UIS Bulletin as a complete issue can be distributed freely.



**REMEMBER
SAVE A TREE; DO NOT
PRINT IF UNNECESSARY**

Editorial

UPLIFTING ENERGY IS REQUIRED

By Nivaldo Colzato (Brazil)

UIS Adjunct Secretary / UIS Bulletin Editor

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Dear readers, here we are again with one more issue of the UIS Bulletin. This time we include an exceptional topic not directly linked to the speleological world, but its social and economic impact is so strong that it also profoundly affects speleological activities around the world.

We are talking, of course, about the COVID-19 pandemic, which is certainly on the pages of almost all types of publications produced during the first six months of this year of 2020.

See our cover, for instance. For the first time since the UIS Bulletin's new design, starting in issue 56-1 (December 2013) it does not include a photo related to caves, karst or speleological events. The option for the virus was not by chance but to register this for the UIS as one of the most impactful periods of our generation.

However, we considered not to show this image or negative facts. After all, as the UIS President George Veni said, *"The world has had enough bad news."* Therefore, the UIS recognizes the global tragedy caused by the pandemic but wants to offer an encouraging message in this hard period that everybody is experiencing.

In the President's Column, Veni, on behalf of the UIS, sends sympathy and compassion to all who have suffered because of this virus. However, he also presents *"a few ways we can to contribute to speleology during this hard period, as well as to be ready to do even more when the virus is over."*

In fact, we can do a lot for speleology without even going into caves. A good example is the hundreds of speleo-videos on the YouTube channel that we didn't have before the pandemic but are now posted.

Beyond the caving activities themselves, the speleological community has also organized a series of virtual initiatives in the field of generosity and charity. They are "charity campaigns." As countries introduce measures to restrict movement as part of efforts to reduce the number of people infected with COVID-19, show caves, parks and touristic places as well are closed for the public.

As a result, thousands of environmental guides and monitors around the world—who have this work as their unique source of income—had their suffering

minimized by funds raised through such campaigns promoted on social media by speleological teams in many countries.

This is what the UIS proposes: keep active, working, and united, as the UIS itself is doing.

On [page 6](#) we have news regarding preparations for the International Year of Caves and Karst 2021 (IYCK 2021). Further on there are three other reports of good news, starting with the UIS Bulletin itself ([page 9](#)). The 38 first issues, from 1970 to 1983—which were only in printed form and therefore not available online—are now digital and the collection is complete for research and download. It was a huge work provided by the UIS in order to make available 23 years more of valuable information on the history of the UIS and international organized speleology.

In sequence, we have two initiatives for you to participate: a special issue of the International Journal of Speleology (IJS) dedicated to the IYCK 2021 ([page 11](#)), and an invitation to make nominations for the 2021 UIS Prizes ([page 12](#)). The UIS encourages you all to participate. Your presence will enrich both UIS projects as well as your own achievements.

An important campaign that needs your help is the theme of the article on [page 15](#). Cave beetles were selected as the "International Cave Animal of the Year 2021." Please join this vital part of the IYCK 2021 strategy to draw attention to the importance of protecting karst landscapes and their diverse, and rare ecosystems through a series of public campaigns on cave fauna.

On [pages 19, 20, and 21](#) there is a list of 31 events related to speleology—some will be online—for your choice and participation. Among them is the 18th International Congress of Speleology (ICS), in 2021, in France. Its newsletter N° 2 begins on [page 22](#).

As you can see, this issue of the UIS Bulletin demonstrates that speleology remains active even in this period of pandemic, and has many plans for next year.

After all, according to George Veni's words, ***"the world needs your positive and uplifting energy for the International Year in 2021 to recover from the sorrows of 2020."***

Good reading, and take care!



The President's Column

ADVANCING SPELEOLOGY IN THE AGE OF COVID-19

By Dr. George Veni (USA)

UIS President

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During that past few months, much of the world has stopped. If you were lucky, you worked from home. Millions of people lost their jobs. Tragically, hundreds of thousands died. The COVID-19 pandemic has affected everyone. To all of you who have suffered because of this virus, the UIS sends you its sympathy and compassion.

Some places around the world are slowly reopening for business. Others are closing. Everyone is wondering if the virus will return in a second, third, or more waves. Everyone is hoping for a vaccine and a cure. Until then, we must all follow the rules of our governments to stay safe and not spread the disease. For millions of people, this means staying at home and distant from others. If you are a speleologist and fortunate to have good health, you want to participate in speleology but that may not be possible. Or is it?

There are many safe ways you can enjoy and advance speleology during the COVID-19 pandemic. The UIS has not stopped working to grow speleological knowledge and science, and neither should you.

Here are a few ways you can contribute to speleology during the virus, and to be ready to do even more when the virus is over.

Write!

Have you visited a cave that is not described in your region's speleological database? If so, write a description of your visit. Discuss who was with you and what you saw. Were there bats? Other animals or insects? Any airflow? Did you need rope or other equipment? Are there unexplored passages? All this and other information is valuable for exploration and science. It needs to be recorded.

Maybe you didn't go to a new cave, but you can write a report on any cave you visited. Send it to your club newsletter. Your report will be fun to read but it will also be a useful historical record of your trip. Many times, old trip reports are reprinted. Looking back through those reports, we see if and how a cave

has changed, and how cavers and their techniques have changed. Writing a report now will be enjoyed by cavers today, and cavers in future generations.

Are you part of a caving project? Maybe it is time to write a general update on the project and build enthusiasm for when you go back to the cave. This may also be a good time to write a book on your project. Your update or book may attract new members to the project. If you are a scientist, this is an excellent time to publish reports on your research. And while it is not exactly writing, this is also a great time to draw your cave maps for your databases, projects, and research reports.

Go Find New Caves!

We are all tired of sitting at home, but in some areas it is OK to go outside and meet people, but if you wear a mask and stay at least 2 m away. If you can, meet with other cavers to search for caves. You will walk through the karst several meters apart for safety from the virus. With easy coordination, when you find new caves you can take turns looking closely



GEORGE VENI

You can search for caves with friends while staying far enough apart to be safe from the virus (and wear masks for extra safety, this photo was taken before the COVID-19 pandemic).

at the entrance to take photos, GPS coordinates, etc., while staying apart. Again, don't forget to wear a mask! If you go with family or friends who live in your house, you can of course be physically close to them and explore and survey the caves too.

You can also find caves without leaving your house. Google Earth is a fabulous tool for cave research and discovery. If you live in a dry climate with few trees or are exploring alpine karst above the elevation of tree growth, many cave entrances are visible. All it takes is time and patience to search and find them. If your area is covered with trees, you may still see dolines or where valleys begin and end abruptly to mark possible cave entrances. When the time is right later, you can go there to continue the exploration you started from your computer.

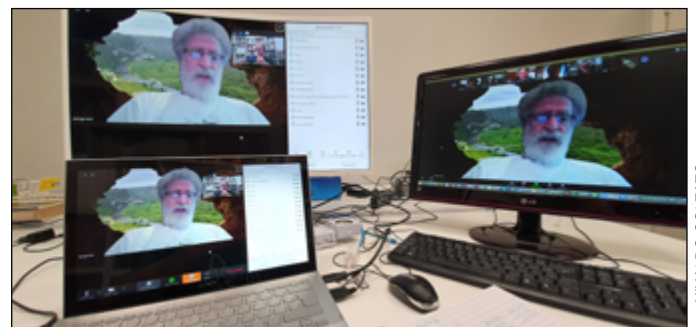
Meet, Organize, Plan, and Build Your Friendships!

On 9 May 2020, the UIS Bureau, Past Presidents, and Honorary Members met informally on a Zoom video-conference. This was the first virtual meeting for the UIS Bureau. It included people from around the world. For some, the sun was just rising, for others it was mid-day, and for a few it was nearly midnight, but it was wonderful to see each other and share our news. Thankfully, everyone was well.

Many clubs are beginning to meet on-line, and some conferences have been reorganized into virtual

meetings. Technology allows us to meet, continue our friendships and activities, and to make new plans. I encourage you to use your time at home to organize and complete your projects and to plan new activities. The International Year of Caves and Karst is next year, and if you have not yet started planning for it with your club or national organization, this is the perfect time ([see next page for news on the International Year](#)). The world needs your positive and uplifting energy for the International Year in 2021 to recover from the sorrows of 2020.

Above all, use these opportunities to keep and build your friendships. You are not alone in this crisis. You are part of the UIS, the global family of speleologists. We will always support each other and look forward to when we can be together again underground.

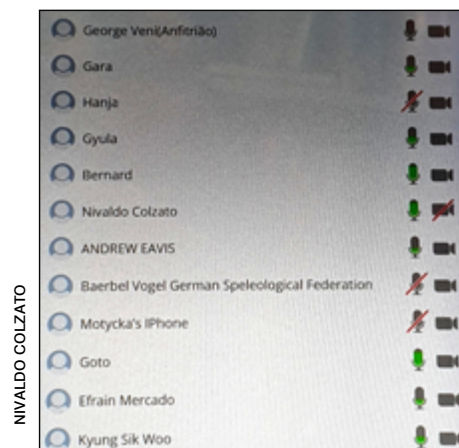


IVALDO COLZATO



SATOSHI GOTO

First virtual meeting of the UIS Bureau (above).
Below, the twelve participants of this historic moment.



IVALDO COLZATO



GEORGE VENI

Cave Publications: Many excellent publications are waiting for your reports!

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF CAVES AND KARST 2021



How to Use and Edit Promotional Materials

By **Zdeněk MOTYČKA** (Czech Republic)

UIS Vice President for Administration

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The UIS Bureau has prepared the following materials for the IYCK:

- **Logo of the IYCK**
- **General leaflet**
- **General poster**
- **Technical poster**
- **IYCK movie**

All materials, except the IYCK movie, are currently available on the IYCK website (www.iyck2021.org) and can be downloaded and used for promotion of the IYCK, or any event related to the IYCK.

The official leaflet and posters are in English and can be translated to your language—some of them are already translated and available on the IYCK website too. To translate the IYCK leaflet and posters to your language, you can use the official PDF published on the IYCK website or ask for them as an Adobe InDesign (indd) file.

The layout of the materials cannot be changed, but you can add your logo to the posters, beside the logo of UIS or IYCK. The logo of the UIS and IYCK cannot be changed or removed from the materials.

The official IYCK promotional movie is in English, with English subtitles. This movie will officially be published in September (date will be announced) via all relevant media worldwide. Until that time, only an unofficial copy can be provided to you, and ONLY for translation of the subtitles. You will also be sent a Word file with the English subtitles and specific instructions for the translations. If you are interested in changing the subtitles from English to your language, please be informed, that is only possible via the official movie producer and it is a paid service for a contribution of 200 EUR.



Official logo of the IYCK 2021

On the next two pages you will find both posters of the IYCK.

For any information regarding using and editing the official IYCK materials, and any future materials the UIS may develop for the IYCK, you can contact **Zdeněk MOTYČKA**, UIS Vice President for Administration at z.motycka@mediform.cz.



General leaflet of the IYCK 2021:

It can be downloaded in multiple languages from the link: <http://iyck2021.org/> and select Download.

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF **CAVES** AND **KARST** 2021



„Explore, understand and protect“

Organized by the International Union of Speleology



Photo by M. Audy



Photo by Jean-François FABRIOL



Photo by R. Hess



Photo by A. Danielli

EXPLORE a fascinating world within our world. Through the IYCK web page and links to partner organizations, you can discover caves and karst. Visit show caves, parks, and join groups that study them.

UNDERSTAND how caves and karst areas affect your lives. Are you one of the hundreds of millions of people whose water comes from caves? How many foods do you enjoy and need which depend on karst and animals like bats?

PROTECT caves and karst areas, as many of them are being damaged and destroyed. Is not an idealistic environmental goal, but simple self-protection of human needs and lives!



INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF CAVES AND KARST 2021



„Explore, understand and protect“

Organized by the International Union of Speleology

KARST is a type of landscape that covers about 20% of the world's land surface, with special surface, hydrological and underground features and phenomena.

CAVES are the best-known type of karst feature, but many other features exist - karren, dolines, poljes, blind valleys, intermittent lakes, sinking streams, large springs, subterranean rivers.

SPELEOLOGY is the scientific study and exploration of caves. They contain exceptional geological, biological, and cultural value, but are highly vulnerable to damage.

When people live in karst areas, they change its natural environment and processes. Important features, like caves, are destroyed. Priceless cultural heritage and unique underground ecosystems are lost. Pollutants from homes, factories, agriculture, and other activities and industries threaten valuable community water supplies.



Photo by G. Veni

Hundreds of caves are open to tourism around the world, many in World Heritage sites. About 150 million tourists visit caves each year, providing vital support to many national economies. Good tourism needs cave conservation and protection of natural processes, or the tourism value of the caves will be lost. Show caves can also teach people about the importance of caves and karst.

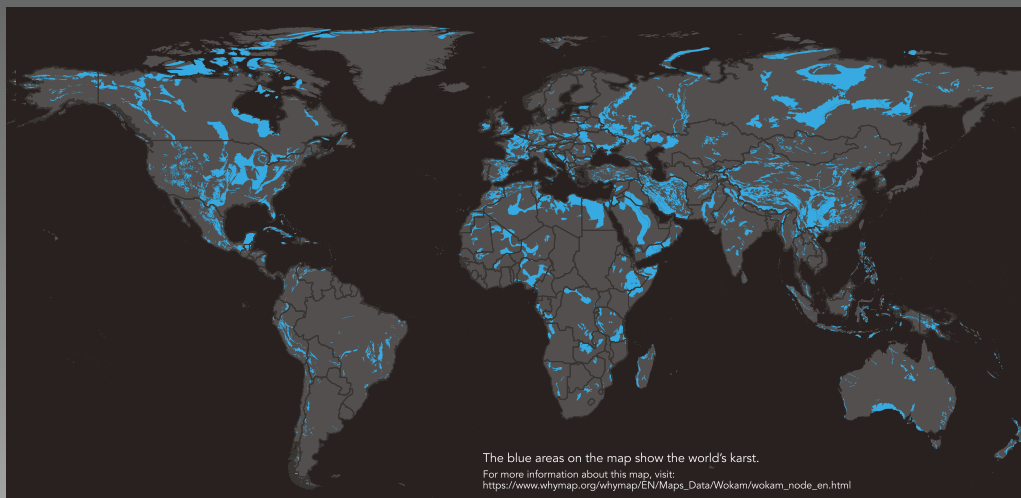


Photo by Z. Motycka



Photo by Z. Motycka

The discovery and exploration of caves is important knowledge of the environment in which we live. Cave maps and studies let us see into the foundation of our world that is mostly hidden underground. Karst and cave protection laws must be based on scientific research to ensure the best possible measures for protection and pollution prevention, and for the best benefit to society.



The blue areas on the map show the world's karst.

For more information about this map, visit:
https://www.whymap.org/whymap/EN/Maps_Data/Wokam/wokam_node_en.html



Photo by K. Kyjka

Karst aquifers provide an estimated 13% of the world's drinking water. They include the largest wells and springs on Earth. Water and pollutants can enter the underground in several ways, in dispersed form by rainfall through bare or covered karst surfaces; and by flooding in through large open holes. Once underground, the water moves freely through open karst conduits, where the rate of self-cleaning is very low or non-existent.



Photo by F. J. Jacobs

Caves and karst are home to many of the planet's most diverse, important, and rare ecosystems. Cave ecosystems and geologic features are extremely sensitive to human activities and visits. Damage is often permanent. If repair is possible, it is usually difficult, expensive, and takes a long time.

Caves have always played a special role in human history, from the beginnings of human culture to the present day. Caves and cave sediments house archives of past life. The world's most significant cultural and archaeological sites often are found in karst areas and caves.



Photo by G. Veni

The International Year of Caves and Karst (IYCK) is an initiative of the International Union of Speleology (UIS). The UIS is a non-profit organization dedicated to the exploration, study, and proper management of caves through international cooperation. www.uis-speleo.org



THE COMPLETE COLLECTION NOW AVAILABLE ON THE UIS WEBSITE

The digital edition of the first 38 issues of the UIS Bulletin (from 1970 to 1993) provides the speleological community with 23 years more of valuable information about the UIS's history and the international organized speleology.

By Nivaldo Colzato (Brazil)

UIS Adjunct Secretary / UIS Bulletin Editor

nivaldo@karinaetiquetas.com.br

Dear cavers, speleologists, cave and karst lovers, we are glad to announce that all 73 issues of the UIS Bulletin are now available on the UIS website.

The issues numbered 39 and onward have been available for a long time. However, the first 38 issues, from 1970 to 1993—which were only in printed form and therefore not available online—are now digital and the collection is complete.

Although some of them were already on the Karst Information Portal's website, for this special batch we considered a new procedure, which consists of presenting a cleaner and nicer aspect, which meant the long and hard work of digitizing everything from scratch for the best quality. After all, these 38 issues of the UIS Bulletin bring in these pages 23 years of the history of the UIS as well as international speleology.

Therefore, after making this decision and receiving all the printed issues from José Ayrtton Labegalini (Brazil, *UIS Past President*), the digitizing process began, page by page, page, for

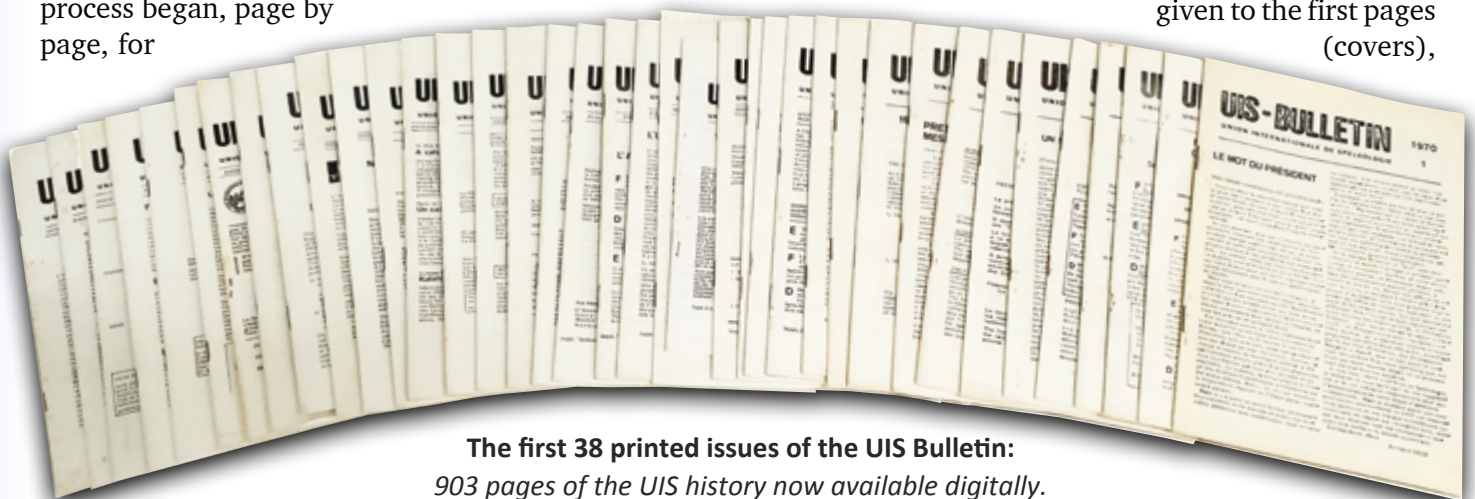
each of the 903 pages that make up these 38 issues. The longest had 48 pages and the shortest had 12.

For this project, the following parameters were adopted:

- **Color:** Grayscale (8 bits)
- **Resolution:** 400 dpi
- **Images:** Uncompressed TIFFs
- **Brightness and Contrast:** adjusted to darken text and other graphic elements
- **Image cropping:** yes, during the digitizing step.
- **OCR option:** yes, so the text can be recognized and searched digitally.

After digitizing all of the 903 pages, the next procedure was the image treatment. This required more adjustments of brightness and contrast, and cleaning stains and spots from most pages since they were as much as 50 years old.

Ready for the next step, the images were transported to the Adobe InDesign program where they were cropped again, adjusted, and aligned to compose the “new” publication. Special attention was given to the first pages (covers),



The first 38 printed issues of the UIS Bulletin:
903 pages of the UIS history now available digitally.

which received a new header and some other improvements in order to give them the cleanest look and the finest possible aspect, taking in account, of course, not to modify the original style and appearance. For the other pages, a few occasional interventions were made, respecting and keeping the original layout and appearance too.

Finally, one at a time, many years after their first publication, the 38 issues were formatted again, now in a digital platform. To generate the final PDF file, a 300 dpi resolution was used so that the final result could reach, as much as possible, the cleanest reading quality.

As we know, the UIS Bulletin is the official publication of the UIS for publicizing the activities of the UIS and the state of the art of international speleology. Consequently, its records over the years make it a historical document, hence the importance of completing its collection.

Regarding historical publications, the UIS recently made available for free download on its website the complete collection of the proceedings of all seventeen International Congresses of Speleology (ICS) held so far. Although the UIS was founded only during the 4th ICS, it led a joint effort so that the entirety of these publications could be accessed by the general public for consultation and research.

Another historical publication regarding the UIS is the book **“Fifty Years of the UIS—1965-2015”**, by José Ayrton Labegalini, launched in 2015, in Postojna, Slovenia, to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the UIS. The 520 pages of this book bring details of the background of the UIS “life” in its first five decades of operation.

Labegalini is now expanding that book to cover the first 60 years of the UIS. It will not only add information from the new decade, but also updates and new accounts of important passages in the history of the UIS that deserve to be registered for future generations.

Coming back to the UIS Bulletin, its complete collection comes to join these two other publications in order to form the trio in which the UIS offers to the international speleological community valuable heritage regarding its own history and international organized speleology as well.

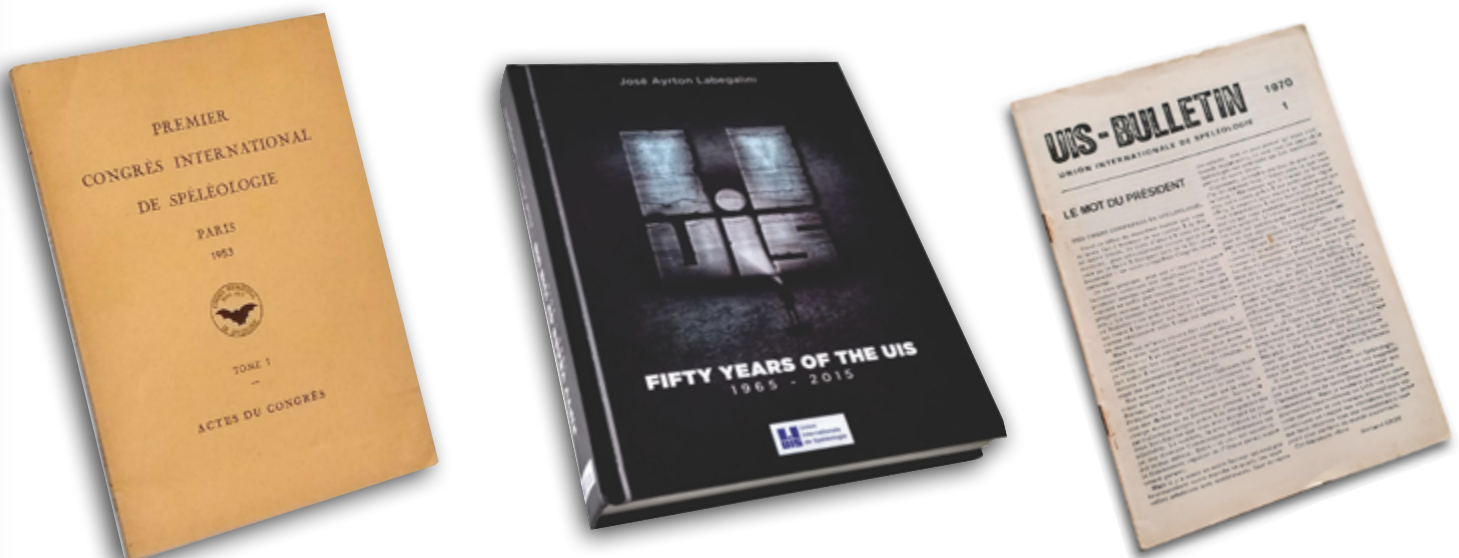
The “full” history of the UIS, of course, lies only in the memory of each person who has or had the opportunity to be part of the UIS Bureau, or to participate in some events, meetings, or any activity organized by the UIS or on behalf of it over its existence.

No matter whether you are a caver, speleologist, karst scientist, or just a simple cave lover, you are invited to keep this trio of publications with you. Such reading will take you on a pleasant journey throughout the world of the UIS and international speleology. A journey in which YOU, definitely, are the protagonist.

To access the complete collection of the UIS Bulletin, please, click on http://www.uis-speleo.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=81&Itemid=408.

To access the ICS’s Proceedings, please, click on http://www.uis-speleo.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=92&Itemid=417

To order the book **“Fifty Years of the UIS—1965-2015”**, please, click on <https://izrk.zrc-sazu.si/en/publikacije/fifty-years-of-the-uis-1#v>



Historical publications that the UIS makes available to the international community (left-to-right): Proceedings of the 1st International Congress of Speleology (1953-Volume 1); book about the first 50 years of the UIS; and the first issue of the UIS Bulletin (1970).



Special Issue dedicated to the International Year of Caves and Karst 2021 (IYCK)



CALL FOR PAPERS

By Bogdan P. Onac, PhD

Editor-In-Chief of the International Journal of Speleology

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On the occasion of the IYCK 2021, the International Journal of Speleology (IJS) is preparing a Special Issue that will consider manuscripts representing new advances and provide insights into and address challenges in all fields of cave and karst research topics. We especially encourage cross-disciplinary contributions. The full papers must be submitted through the IJS portal. When submitting your paper, be sure to select from the Document type dropdown menu, the **IYCK 2021** Special Issue. Please see Submission Guidelines on the journal's website. The deadline for submission is: **October 15, 2020**.

The International Journal of Speleology is the official journal of the Union Internationale de Spéléologie since 1978 and was founded in 1964. It is a double-blind, peer-reviewed, international scientific journal that publishes research and review articles concerning all sciences involved in karst and caves, such as geology, geomorphology, hydrology, archaeology, palaeontology, (palaeo) climatology, meteorology, microbiology, environmental sciences, physics, chemistry, mineralogy etc. IJS is published three times per year.

AIMS & SCOPE

IJS's aim is to get cave and karst science known to an increasing number of scientists and scholars. The journal therefore offers the opportunity to all scientists working in and on karst to publish their original research articles or their review papers in an open access, high quality peer reviewed scientific journal at no cost. The journal offers authors an online first, open access, free PDF of their article and a wide range of abstracting and indexing services.

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Articles are open access at <http://scholarcommons.usf.edu/ijs>. The journal is abstracted and indexed in the following services: [Directory of Open Access Journals](#), [ISI Thomson Services](#) (Science Citation Index-Expanded including the Web of Science, ISI Alerting Service, Current Contents/Physical, Chemical and Earth Sciences), [Bibliography & Index of Geology](#) (GeoRef, Cambridge Scientific Abstracts), EarthScienceWISE (Oxmill Publishing), [EBSCO Publishing](#), Geobase, [Speleological Abstracts \(UIS\)](#), [Ulrich's Periodical Directory™](#), BIOSIS Zoological record, SCOPUS (Elsevier), and [SCImago Journal and Country Rank](#).

The issue 2 of Volume 49 (in progress) can be accessed on <https://scholarcommons.usf.edu/ijs/vol49/iss2/>.

For any other information regarding the IJS, please, access <https://scholarcommons.usf.edu/ijs/>.



UIS PRIZES 2021

CALL FOR NOMINATION

by the UIS Prizes 2021 Committee

- Nivaldo Colzato (Brazil) – *UIS Adjunct Secretary*
- José Ayrton Labegalini (Brazil) – *UIS Past President*
- Jean-Pierre Bartholeyns (Belgium) – *President of the UIS Commission on Karst and Cave Protection*

Dear cavers, speleologists, and cave lovers around the world, we are glad to announce that the nominations for the UIS Prizes 2021 are open.

The purpose of this article is to provide an overview of the UIS prizes as well as information on how to make nominations for 2021.

1 – INTRODUCTION

The UIS prizes were introduced by the Organizing Committee of the 11th International Congress of Speleology (ICS) in China (1993) and formally accepted by the UIS Bureau at the 12th ICS in Switzerland (1997).

According to the Internal Regulations of the UIS, “Prizes are given at the International Congress of Speleology for specific accomplishments at the congress or during the period since the previous congress. Prizes may be given for outstanding books, scientific posters presented at the congress, and other contributions to speleology as determined appropriate by a Prize Committee appointed by the UIS Bureau.

The Prize Committee will also decide the number of prizes, who will receive them, the nature of the prize (e.g. certificate, medal, funds, etc.), and other conditions as necessary per the unique materials and accomplishments present at a congress or since the previous congress.

The prizes are not competitive and not related to the cartographic, photographic, athletic, and other competitions at the congresses. More than one prize may be given for a category, and prizes will not be given if the Prize Committee does not find accomplishments worthy of the recognition.”

2 – PARTICIPATION

Participation in the UIS prizes for 2021 is open to any person and/or association, except for the UIS Bureau Members. Submission of a nomination implies acceptance of these regulations, the purpose of the UIS

prizes, and the decisions made by the judges. Nominators grant the UIS the right to use, at no cost, all photos, graphics and images that were sent as part of the nomination to support the goals of the UIS.

3 – CATEGORIES

For the UIS Prizes 2021, five categories are considered:

CATEGORY 1:

The Most Significant Cave Discovery/Exploration

The UIS Bureau reserves the right to nominate additional discoveries for this prize. If more than one discovery or exploration deserves an award, an Honorable Mention may be given.

CATEGORY 2:

The Most Significant Publication About Caves or Karst

Scientific and/or technical publications will be considered for this prize. Two subcategories are considered for this prize, as follows:

2.a – Printed Publication

2.b – Digital Publication

CATEGORY 3:

The Best Special Book

Printed or digital books that are important speleological publications but not necessarily related to scientific/technical topics will be considered for this prize.

CATEGORY 4: Poster Prize

Prize for the best poster displayed at the 18th ICS (<https://uis2021.speleos.fr/>).

Two subcategories are considered for this prize, as follows:

4.a – The Best Scientific Poster – Selected by a committee of judges at the congress.

4.b – The Best Cavers’ Prize Poster – Selected by a vote of the visitors to the 18th ICS poster exhibition.

Both posters can be on any cave or karst-related topic. Entries in the cave photographic and surveying competitions are ineligible for this prize.

No poster should exceed 2 m (height) x 1 m (width). A concise title is recommended, as well as the name, institutional affiliation and address of the author(s). Each poster should also include information about the materials and methods used, the results obtained (even if preliminary), and the conclusions reached. The posters may contain photos, figures, tables, and maps. Authors must present their posters in the location and as directed by the congress so they can be judged easily by the committee and the visitors to the 18th ICS poster exhibition.

CATEGORY 5:

Greatest Scientific Achievement

Prize for the most important or significant scientific achievement in any area of cave or karst research.

4 – NOMINATIONS

Nominations are open and can be sent anytime **until the deadline of May 21, 2021.**

When nominating, please, specify the category. In the case of books, the same nomination will be accepted for both categories 2 and 3, if specified properly.

E-mail is the preferred method of submitting nominations, which should be in English.

Books in categories 2 and 3 will be accepted in the other official UIS languages too (French, German, Italian, Spanish, and Russian). However, the nomination and all basic information about the publication must be sent in English.

Below are the prize committee members and their addresses. Please email your nomination to all of them individually and also send a copy (CC) to uisprizes2021@uis-speleo.org.

- **Nivaldo Colzato (Brazil)** – *UIS Adjunct Secretary*
nivaldo@karinaetiquetas.com.br
- **José Ayrton Labegalini (Brazil)** – *UIS Past President*
ja.labegalini@uol.com.br
- **Jean-Pierre Bartholeyns (Belgium)** - *President of the UIS Commission on Karst and Cave Protection*
jp.bartholeyns@gmail.com

All nominators will be informed once their nomination is officially registered.

4.a - Nominations for Category 1 (the Most Significant Cave Discovery/Exploration) **and Category 5** (Greatest Scientific Achievement) should include the following information:

- **Person responsible for the nomination:** *full name and contact address.*
- **Brief description of the discovery/exploration or achievement and its significance:**

- **Location:**
- **Discovery/exploration or achievement team or team leader(s):**

- **Photos:** *maximum of five for future use by the UIS Prize Committee. They must be in JPEG format. In a separate file, send the name of each photo file, caption for the photo, and the name of the photographer.*

- **Publication(s) about the discovery/exploration or achievement:** *specify if any.*

4.b – Nominations for Category 2 (the Most Significant Publication About Caves or Karst) **and 3** (Special Book) should include the following information:

- **Person responsible for the nomination:** *full name and contact address.*

- **Title of the publication:**

- **Author(s):**

- **Brief description of the publication and its significance:**

- **Publisher:**

- **Date of publication:**

- **Language(s):**

- **Cover photo(s):** *in high resolution—if possible—and JPEG format.*

- **Information about printing:** *Color, paper, size, number of pages, etc.*

- **Website for digital version, if available:**

- **Digital file:** *if the file is smaller than 12 Mb, send it by email. Otherwise, for larger files please send by We-transfer (www.wetransfer.com) or other similar platform to transfer large files.*

ATTENTION: In addition to nominations via the Internet, we request that a hard copy of the book be sent to the following address:

UIS PRIZES 18th ICS 2021 - BOOK NOMINATION
Att. FFS-Fédération Française de Spéléologie
28 rue Delandine - 69002 LYON
FRANCE

Please, do not forget to write **UIS PRIZES 18th ICS 2021-BOOK NOMINATION** on the package. Such information is important so that the officers of the French Federation of Speleology (FFS) can easily recognize and separate it from the other materials of the 18th ICS.

The nominators will be informed once their package is in hands of the FFS.

The books will be displayed during the congress for appreciation of the public as well as for the technical analysis of the judges. After the congress, the book will become a part of the UIS library. The Prize Committee reserves the right to cancel a nomination if the printed copy cannot be displayed at the congress.

4.c – For Category 4 (Poster Prize) there will be no nominations but only judgment by a scientific committee composed of international experts (Best Scientific Poster) and voting by the visitors of the 18th ICS (Caver's Prize).

5 – JUDGING

• **Category 1** will be judged by a committee of international speleologists familiar with exploration throughout the world.

• **Categories 2, 3, and 4.a** will be judged at the congress by a scientific committee invited by the Prize Committee.

• **Category 4.b** will be selected by the votes of the visitors of the 18th ICS exhibition posters.

• **Category 5** will be judged before the congress by a scientific committee invited by the Prize Committee.

The names of the judges will not be released to preserve the confidentiality of the process.

6 – AWARDS CEREMONY

The UIS Prizes 2021 Award Ceremony is planned for the closing of the 18th ICS. The ceremony will be illustrated by a Power Point presentation of the awards and will be led by the Prize Committee Chair. No results will be released before the Awards Ceremony.

7 – RECOGNITION

Prize winners will receive an award certificate. Different types or additional awards (e.g. medal, plate,

funds, etc.) may be given by the UIS Prize Committee per the unique accomplishment of the awarded nomination and/or the materials and circumstances of the congress or since the previous congress.

Prize winners will also be recognized in a report on the awards that will be published in the first issue of the UIS Bulletin after the 18th ICS. Photos taken during the Awards Ceremony will illustrate the report. Additionally, the UIS is developing a permanent page for “UIS Awards” on its website www.uis-speleo.org where the winners will be listed.

8 – FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

The UIS encourages the international speleological community to submit nominations. For any question or information concerning the UIS prizes, please, contact the UIS Prize Committee Chair at uisprizes2021@uis-speleo.org.

Comments and suggestions on the nomination process and operation of the UIS prizes are always welcome.

Finally, do not forget, please: THE DEAD-LINE FOR NOMINATIONS IS MAY 21, 2021.



General view of the Université Savoie Technolac/Le Bourget-Du-lac, France, place of the 18th ICS.



Sports Complex Emile Allais will hold the poster exhibition of the 18th ICS.

<https://uis2021.speleos.fr/>

CAVE BIODIVERSITY

FIRST INTERNATIONAL CAVE ANIMAL OF THE YEAR: CAVE BEETLE

By

Stefan Zaenker (Germany)

Department of Biospeleology of the German Speleological Society
info@hoehlentier.de

Bärbel Vogel (Germany)

UIS Adjunct Secretary
b.w.vogel@gmx.de

The International Year of Caves and Karst (IYCK) in 2021 is intended to draw attention to the importance of protecting karst landscapes and their diverse karst formations through a series of public campaigns.

Part of this strategy is the nomination of an **“International Cave Animal of the Year.”**

It raises attention for the little-known zoological diversity of species in subterranean habitats in general and with an international focus, thus contributing to global awareness of the necessity of cave protection.

For this purpose, the group of cave beetles was selected. With about 400,000 described species in about 180 families, beetles are the world’s largest order in the class of insects. Beetles possess a characteristic that distinguishes them from all other insects: the transformation of their forewings into hard or at least tough, difficult to harm wing covers (elytra). These offer good protection for the delicate hind wings and also for the abdomen. Their outer skeleton is harder than that of most other insects and not only protects the animals against enemies, but also prevents the loss of moisture in dry habitats.

A beetle was the world’s first scientifically described cave animal. The Slenderneck Beetle (*Leptodirus hochenwartii*) lives in cold and usually large caves in Europe’s Western Dinaric Alps. The first discovery of this blind cave beetle was in September 1831 by a cave guide who picked it up while exploring a newly discovered part of the Postojna cave system in south-west Slovenia. The beetle’s discovery was published in 1832 by the entomologist Ferdinand J. Schmidt.

A leaflet on the first international cave animal is in preparation and will contain general information on cave beetles. The leaflet will be available for download at <http://iyck2021.org/>.



PETER GEDEI

One famous example of cave beetles: **Slenderneck Beetle** (*Leptodirus hochenwartii*)

Please join the campaign by spreading general information and therefore increasing awareness of cave biodiversity, as well as by declaring a cave beetle as the national cave animal in your country. Your national cave beetle should be present in your country, easy to find, with pictures available, and an interesting story to tell.

Share your campaign information on the website of your national speleological federation or on a national or regional homepage created for the campaign. These pages and regional efforts can be linked to the IYCK website <http://iyck2021.org/>.

The following national websites on Cave Animal of the Year campaigns already exist:

- **Germany:** <https://hoehlentier.de/en/>
- **Australia:** <https://www.caveanimaloftheyear.org.au/>
- **Italy:** <https://animalidigrotta.speleo.it/>
- **Switzerland:** <https://cavernicola.ch/>
- **USA:** <https://caves.org/conservation/caveanimaloftheyear.shtml>

For more information, contact:

Stefan Zaenker, Department of Biospeleology of the German Speleological Society (Verband der deutschen Höhlen- und Karstforscher e.V.), info@hoehlentier.de.

Bärbel Vogel, UIS Adjunct Secretary, b.w.vogel@gmx.de



UNDERWATER CONTAMINATION

GENOVESA UNDERWATER CAVE ENCASED IN 10m OF SEWAGE

By

Jean-Pierre Bartholeyns (Belgium)

President of the UIS Karst and Cave Protection Commission

jp.bartholeyns@gmail.com

Sources: Majorca Daily Bulletin

<https://www.majorcadailybulletin.com/>

Mètode/Vniversitat de València

<https://metode.org/>

A ten-meter high mountain of rubbish has accumulated in the underwater Genovesa cave, in Cala Anguila, Mallorca Island, Spain. The cave has been declared a Special Conservation Zone—or ZEC—and the contamination has been reported by both environmental groups and the Balearic Federation of Caving.

Last December, United per Conservar raised the alarm after a visit to the site and described the situation inside the cave as extremely grave due to an accumulation of solid fecal waste which is now difficult to remove.

The President of the Federation, Guiem Mulet, has long warned the Ministry of the Environment of the accumulation of solid waste in the Genovesa cave. *“At first it was thought that it must have come from a chalet that didn’t have proper sewerage, but when our work team saw how big the mountain of waste was, they realised it was impossible that it came from a single house,”* he explained.

The contamination was not just liquid and organic waste, there was also an accumulation of

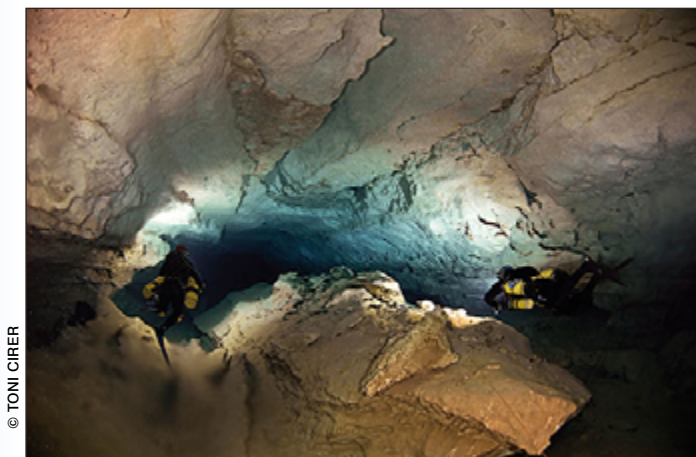
plastics, including cotton buds, pads and condoms.

“The problem comes from the pumping station that belongs to Abacua which was not properly sealed, so the faeces from the Cala Anguila housing estate was leaking into the cave,” said Guiem Mulet, who also pointed out that eels and shrimp in the underground cave feed on the feces.

“The main problem now is the accumulation of plastic waste because we don’t know how it can be removed, it’s very difficult to clean the area without damaging the cave,” he said.

Robert Busquet from Units per Conservar, who reported the situation last December, said *“we will work together with the Speleology Federation to find a solution and study other ways to empty the debris.”*

Guiem Mulet also claimed that *“there are faecal leaks in the Vallgornera cave, in Lluçmajor because there is no sewerage, but they are liquid waste,”* and he warned that contamination is clear in the cavity of Lluçmajor, and that animal species such as hedgehogs are feeding on the feces.



© TONI CIRER

Blocks in the Genovesa cave, found by continued exploration. The cave reaches to within about 100 meters of the sea.



© TONI CIRER / MAJORCA DAILY BULLETIN

Mountains of fecal waste fill the Genovesa cave.

IN MEMORIAM

Trifon Daaliev

Bulgaria, 1947-2019

By Christian Dodelin (France)

President of the UIS Cave Rescue Commission

dodelinchristian@gmail.com

Source: <https://caverescue.eu/in-memorial-of-trifon-daaliev/>

On 27 November 2019 we lost the outstanding Bulgarian speleologist Trifon Daaliev – **“Trankata” (The Thorny)**, long term Secretary of the Bulgarian Federation of Speleology and chief of the Cave Rescue Bulgaria (formerly Emergency Rescue Squad).

Born on the 5th of December 1947, Trifon Daaliev was one of the most active and important participants in Bulgarian speleology and Bulgarian cave rescue. In 1968 he graduated from the professional school of Polygraphy “Julius Fuchik” and in 1979 the National Academy of Sports “Vasil Levski.”

Daaliev was a speleologist and a mountaineer, a senior instructor of speleology since 1976, a secretary of the Bulgarian Federation of Speleology from 1979 to 2012, a member and leader of numerous expeditions in Bulgaria and abroad: England, Russia, Romania, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Slovenia, Montenegro, Cuba, Albania, Austria, France, Italy, Thailand, Nepal, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, China,

Ukraine, Georgia, Poland, Turkey, Greece, USA, Canada, Puerto Rico, and more.

He participated in the survey of numerous caves in Bulgaria and abroad. He conducted training courses for cavers, instructors and rescuers since 1973. He was one of the main motors of the introduction of the single rope techniques in Bulgaria.

Head of the Emergency Rescue Squad at the Bulgarian Federation of Speleology from 1989 to 2013 and Deputy Chairman of Bulgarian Cave Rescue from 2013 to 2017, Daaliev was then made an Honorary Member of the organization. In 1989 he was elected secretary and in 1997 the first deputy chairman of the Cave Rescue Commission of the International Union of Speleology.



© EUROPEAN CAVE RESCUE ASSOCIATION



© EUROPEAN CAVE RESCUE ASSOCIATION

Aggtelek-Josvafo, Hungary, 2007: Trifon Daaliev (standing in front, the second from the right) during the 11th International Cave Rescue Conference.

Together with Dr. Petar Beron and Alexey Jalov, he co-authored the monograph **“Caves and Speleology in Bulgaria”**, an English and Bulgarian version (2006, 2009), which was awarded the Third Prize at the 15th International Congress of Speleology in 2009 (Texas, USA). He co-authored the book **“Bulgarians in the Abysses of the World”** (1986). He was also an author of numerous articles about caves in Bulgarian and foreign magazines. He compiled a series of brochures with descriptions and maps of the most important caves and abysses. He was editor of the “Bulgarian Caves” series.

An year and a half ago, Daaliev published his last book **“The call of the caves—the caving life of Trankata and his diaries.”** The memories about Trankata’s life became the story of caving in Bulgaria during the last 50 years. The book is filled with significant cave discoveries around the world and in Bulgaria, diaries from major Bulgarian and international expeditions, adventures and stories of true friendships.

Trifon Daaliev was also known as an excellent cave photographer. His photos have been used in numerous occasions. For those who knew him, Trifon Daaliev was a great Man and Teacher. For those who will meet him through his books, he will be an Inspiration. Dozens of cave rescuers and hundreds of



© EUROPEAN CAVE RESCUE ASSOCIATION

Dryanovo, Bulgaria, May 2011: Trifon Daaliev (red jacket) during the opening ceremony of the Cave Rescue Training held in his country.

cavers will be grateful to him for what he has done for the development and promotion of cave rescue and speleology at home and abroad.

Until his last breath he lived with the problems of caving and cave rescue in his country. He left us as he was imagining it—fulfilling his mission on this earth.

We will miss you a lot.

Be blessed.

Rest in peace, Tranka!

Quand j’ai succédé à André Slagmolen à la présidence du secours à l’UIS, il m’a été présenté comme correspondant pour les pays de l’Est en Europe. Dès 1976 il est instructeur et introduit la progression sur corde unique dans son pays. En 1997 il me seconde comme vice-président à la commission spéléo secours de l’UIS. En 1999 on le retrouve avec l’un de ses collègues au stage international secours que nous organisons dans les Pyrénées. Quelques temps plus tard nous sommes avec Bernard Tourte en Bulgarie sur un stage secours où il commence l’enseignement des techniques modernes. Il sera de toutes les rencontres internationales. Nous lui devons beaucoup et n’oublierons pas sa gentillesse.



CHRISTIAN DODELIN

Slovenia, 2010: Trifon in front, during preparation for the UIS Bureau Meeting. Behind him (gray jacket) is his countryman Petar Beron.

When I succeeded André Slagmolen as President of the UIS Cave Rescue Commission in 2005, Trifon Daaliev was introduced to me as correspondent for Eastern European countries. In 1976 he became an instructor and introduced single rope techniques to his country. In 1997, he seconded me as Vice President of the UIS Cave Rescue Commission.

In 1999 we met at the international rescue course that we organized in the Pyrenees, France. Some time later we were with Bernard Tourte in Bulgaria on an emergency course where Daaliev began teaching new rescue techniques. He attended all international meetings.

We owe him a lot and will not forget his kindness.

Christian Dodelin, March 2020

Calendar of Events

**2020
2021**

If you are interested in any of the following events, contact them directly to learn if they are still planned as announced below

USA National Speleological Society Virtual Annual Convention

Online 27-31 July 2020

<https://nsscon2020.org/>

UNESCO Karst 2020: Conservation of Fragile Karst Resources

A Workshop on Sustainability and Community

Online 15-21 August 2020

<https://karst2020.com>

Carbonate Critical Zone: An NSF-Sponsored Workshop

August-September 2020 (virtual meeting)

<https://carbonatecriticalzone.research.ufl.edu/>

9th International Workshop on Ice Caves (IWIC-IX) & 12th Scientific Conference Research, Utilization and Protection of Caves

8-11 September 2020 (Liptovský Mikuláš, Slovakia)

<http://www.ssj.sk/en/akcia/18-12th-scientific-conference-research-protection-and-utilization-of-caves>

14th Balkan Cavers Camp

9-13 September 2020 (Dryanovo, Bulgaria)

<https://balkancaverscamp.weebly.com/>

Visual KARSYS Online Course

16-17 September 2020

<https://www.visualkarsys.com/>

Geological Society of America Convention / GSA 2020 Connects Online

Online 26-30 October 2020

<https://community.geosociety.org/gsa2020/home>

European Cave Rescue Association Meeting 2020

12-15 November 2020 (Cantabria, Spain)

<https://caverescue.eu/ecra-meeting-2020-cantabria-spain/>

ALCADI 2020 - International Symposium on History of Speleology and Karstology in the Alps, Carpathians and Dinarides

5-8 December 2020 (ALps, Carpathians and Dinarides - Gorizia, Italy)

<http://www.seppenhofer.it/>

Calendar of Events

2020 2021

International Course and Field Seminar: Characterization and Engineering of Karst Aquifers

Postponed to 2021 (Žabljak-Durmitor Mt., Virpazar-Skadar Lake in Montenegro, and in Trebinje in Bosnia & Herzegovina)

<http://www.karst.edu.rs>

7th International Course Characterization and Engineering of Karst Aquifers (CEKA)

Postponed to 2021 (Montenegro: Žabljak-Durmitor Mt., Virpazar-Skadar Lake, and Bosnia and Herzegovina: Trebinje)

<http://www.karst.edu.rs>

14th International Symposium on Pseudokarst

Postponed to spring 2021 (Świętokrzyskie [Holy Cross] Mountains, Poland)

<https://14pseudokarst.wonders4you.com/>

ERIS 100 - 1st International Karst Science Forum

Postponed to 2021 (Bucharest, Romania)

<https://www.eris100.ro>

16th Multidisciplinary Conference on the Engineering and Environmental Impacts of Karst

12-16 April 2021 (San Juan, Puerto Rico)

www.sinkholeconference.com

US Geological Survey Karst Interest Group Meeting

May 2021 (Nashville, Tennessee, USA)

https://www.usgs.gov/mission-areas/water-resources/science/karst-interest-group-kig-2020-workshop?qt-science_center_objects=0#qt-science_center_objects

Australian Cave and Karst Management Association Conference

3-7 May 2021 (Wellington Caves, New South Wales, Australia)

enquiries@wellingtoncaves.com.au

36th Brazilian Congress of Speleology

3-6 June 2021 (Brasilia, Brazil)

diretoriasbe@cavernas.org.br

Karst Waters Institute Frontiers in Karst: Sulfuric Acid Weathering

Postponed to mid-summer 2021 (San Vittore, Italy)

<https://karstwaters.org/conferences/sulfuric-acid-weathering/>

28th International Karstological School "Classical Karst":

Regional Karstology-Local and General Aspects

14-18 June 2021 (Postojna, Slovenia)

<https://iks.zrc-sazu.si/en/>

Calendar of Events

**2020
2021**

Eurokarst 2021: The European Congress on Karst Hydrogeology and Carbonate Reservoirs

22-24 June 2021 (Málaga, Spain)

<http://www.eurokarst.org/>

USA National Speleological Society Convention

28 June – 2 July 2021 (Weed, California, USA)

<http://nss2021.caves.org/>

Karst Record IX (KR9) Conference

11-14 July 2021 (Innsbruck, Austria)

<https://www.uibk.ac.at/congress/kr9/news/2017/kr9-postponed-to-2021.html.en>

18th International Congress of Speleology

25 July - 1 August 2021 (Savoie Mont Blanc University, Chambéry, France)

<http://uis2021.speleos.fr/>

Central Asian Speleological Forum

August 2021 (Tashkent, Uzbekistan)

<https://speleo.kg/en/>

34th International Geographical Congress

Karst sessions: Global Karst Critical Zone and Land Use Planning in Karst

16-20 August 2021 (Istanbul, Turkey)

<https://www.igc2020.org/>

19th International Symposium on Vulcanospeleology

28 August – 4 September 2021 (Catania, Italy)

<http://www.19isvetna.com/>

Fort Stanton Cave Science Conference

September 2021 (Socorro, New Mexico, USA)

<https://geoinfo.nmt.edu/FtStanton/home.cfm>

26th International Cave Bear Symposium

30 September - 3 October 2021 (Reiss-Engelhorn-Museen, Mannheim, Germany)

doris.doeppes@mannheim.de

6th EuroSpeleo Protection Symposium

26-30 October 2021 (Isle of Vilm, Baltic Sea, Germany)

symposium@eurospeleo.org

Speleo Kamaraton 2021

29 October – 1 November 2021 (Marina di Camerota, Salerno, Italy)

<http://www.speleokamaraton.eu/>

18TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS **SPELEOLOGY**



25 JULY - 1 AUGUST 2021 • SAVOIE TECHNOLAC

KARST HERITAGE AND RESOURCES



NEWSLETTER N°2

The new teaser of the congress is available!

We invite you to discover it, to watch it again and again, at home or at work (in moderation), and to share it!



 **SHARE**

SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE

Register and propose a paper or poster in any one or more of the 20 symposia.

20 symposia are organized which address all the themes of caving (karst knowledge, exploration, history, practice, technique, etc.).

DISCOVER THE SYMPOSIUMS

These symposia cover the great diversity of speleology and will welcome speleologists, and cave and karst scientists and managers from around the world. These symposia are for all lovers of speleology, caves, and karst. With the first symposium, we will highlight the principal theme of the congress: Karst, heritage and resources.

Would you like to present a paper (or poster) in the “Scientific Conference”?
It is very simple, just register on the dedicated site:

uis2021.sciencesconf.org

To submit a paper or poster, follow these three simple steps:

- 1.** Send your title and abstract (maximum 200 words) by the deadline of August 31, 2020. You will be notified within one month if your proposed paper is accepted.
- 2** – Article submission (format: 4 pages, lay out according to provided template). Deadline: December 31, 2020. The article is reviewed by the Symposium Editorial Committee. Corrections may be requested at this stage.
- 3** – Send the final article following the requested corrections.

BOOK YOUR TICKETS NOW TO BENEFIT FROM REDUCED RATES

Until 24/01/2021 the tickets are at -25%, take advantage of this limited offer!



CONGRESS FULL ACCESS EARLY BOOKING 24/01/2021

Early Booking ticket with a special rate until 24/01/2021. This ticket allows you to submit papers and posters. Includes: congressional briefcase, gala dinner, ICS program, digital proceedings, WiFi access.

~~175€~~
129,00 €



CONGRESS FULL ACCESS EARLY BOOKING (-26 Y.O.) 24/01/2021

Full congress ticket with a special rate until 24/01/2021 for participants under 26 years of age (at the opening of the congress). This ticket allows to submit oral communications. Includes: congressional briefcase, gala dinner, ICS program, digital proceedings, WiFi access.

~~148€~~
111,00 €



FULL CONGRESS EARLY BOOKING (2 PEOPLE) 24/01/2021

Special rate ticket until 24/01/2021 valid for 2 people: 1 participant with full access (including, congress briefcase, ability to submit papers and posters, digital proceedings, gala dinner, WiFi access) + 1 accompanying adult (including gala dinner, program and WiFi access).

~~300€~~
224,00 €



FULL CONGRESS CHILD PARTICIPANT (8 - 17 Y.O.) 24/01/2021

Ticket for accompanying child (from 8 to 17 y.o. at the opening of the congress) with a special rate, includes the ICS program, gala dinner.

40,00 €



KIDS (0-7 Y.O.) 24/01/2021

Free

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE DISCOUNTED PRICE AT -25%

EXCURSIONS

Pre-congress and post-congress excursions will be announced soon. Please check the website www.uis2021.speleos.fr/. For now, you can select from 24 mid-week excursions.

Wednesday 28 July, in the middle of the Congress Week, will be dedicated to the many excursions organized by the UIS Congress team.

Tours in caves, discovery of regional architectural and historical heritage, or initiation to local gastronomy, book now the excursions that interest you!



1 h 30 from the congress, discover the natural spectacle of the caves of Choranche, arranged for the pleasure of everybody !



1 hour from the congress the «grottes de la Balme» offers a porch as big as a chapel house, gours, a lake, and many other wonders to discover.



40 minutes from the congress, discover the cave of Prérout, for a 3 hour hike in the heart of the Bauges, UNESCO Geopark, with its pits, galleries and huge rooms.



Visit the old iron mine and the St Georges d'Hurtières museum (73). Workshops for children and a tour of the Sainte-Barbe gallery.



Free day in Chamonix-Mont-Blanc and its surroundings: visit of the pretty town, get up close to the Mont Blanc Massif via the cable car, discovery of the «Mer de Glace» or the «Pic du Midi».

SEE ALL THE EXCURSIONS



OPEN THE MAP

HOW TO REACH SAVOIE TECHNOLOC?

BY CAR



From Lyon

A43 Direction Chambéry

After the Chambéry toll (exit 11), follow the sign "Le Bourget-du-Lac Bourgen-Bresse". After 5km at the roundabout enter Savoie Technolac.

From Grenoble or Turin

Take A43 (from Turin) or A41 (from Grenoble) towards Chambéry. Stay on the expressway towards Annecy.

Take exit 11 towards Bourget-du-Lac.

After 5km arrive in Savoie Technolac.

From Geneva

A1 (Switzerland) sign for "France"
 After customs, follow A41 sign "Aix-les-Bains Grenoble Chambéry Turin"
 Exit 13 Aix-les-Bains-Sud at the sign "Aix-les-Bains." At the second roundabout, follow the sign "Viviers-du-Lac."
 In the center of Viviers-du-Lac turn right towards "Lac".
 At the roundabout "Intermarché" follow the sign to Savoie Technolac."
 After 4km arrive in Savoie Technolac.

BY PLANE



Paris CDG / Orly

Train connections to Chambéry et Aix-les-Bains
www.parisaeroport.fr

Lyon Saint-Exupéry

Train and bus connections to Chambéry et Aix-les-Bains
www.lyonaeroports.com

Geneva

Train connections to Chambéry et Aix-les-Bains
www.gva.ch

BY TRAIN



Chambéry

Direct connections to the congress by bus
Line 2
[Download the bus map](#)
 15 min by car

Aix-les-bains

Direct connections to the congress by bus
Line 1
[Download the bus map](#)
 15 min by car

THE MOST BEAUTIFUL TOURISTIC PLACES NEAR THE CONGRESS

AIX-LES-BAINS CITY

Famous spa town, from antiquity to today, with a rich heritage and where it is good to stroll, at the foot of buildings of the Victorian era, or along the esplanade of the lake, between the small port and large port. Discover the city on video....



CHAMBÉRY CITY

Former capital of the Dukes of Savoy, Chambéry has retained its medieval town plan, with its narrow alleys hinged around the castle, its shops sheltered from the porches and its terraces inviting walkers to take their time...



Nicknamed the Venice of the Alps, Annecy is one of the most beautiful cities in France. Discover its picturesque canals, its medieval architecture, its bridges, and the magnificent lake that borders the city.

With its Gothic Troubadour architecture, Hautecombe Abbey was founded in the 12th century by Cistercian monks. It is still a place of prayer where the Chemin Neuf Community lives daily.

Splendid medieval castle, the fortress of Miolans was a residence but also a prison, especially for the Marquis de Sade... Explore the dungeon and even the jails...

View of Mont-Blanc from Lac Blanc



[SEE ALL THE ATTRACTIONS](#)

THE BEST SPORTS ACTIVITIES AROUND THE CONGRESS

Many cavities are equipped especially for the congress, accessible within an hour. Just ask at the “cavities” booth!

The Bauges Massif, UNESCO-certified Geopark and the other nearby massifs, offer opportunities for Canyoning but also siphons to discover for divers...



Enjoy your favorite activity by discovering some of the Savoie classics, there are all levels of difficulty for everyone...!

[See the caves](#)



Many canyons are accessible near the congress, including the beautiful canyons of Ternèze and the Devil's Bridge... Be careful, during this period there is a risk of overcrowding. Ask at the “cavities” booth.

[See the canyoning places](#)



The caves of Savoie are often “aquatic”, and speleologists will undoubtedly find their place in them...

The ICS2021 congress is located on the shores of Lac du Bourget, the largest natural lake in France, offering many opportunities to enjoy its temperate waters. Lovers of hiking, climbing or via ferrata will enjoy the wonderful spaces and views!



Kite surfing, paddle boarding, kayaking, boat rental... Many sites and beaches offer sports activities accessible to all.



The Via Ferrata of Roc de Cornillon, just 15 minutes from the congress, is a must for those who want to mix vertigo and contemplation of the blue water of the lake.



Swimming and idleness... Many beaches are very close to the congress.

[SEE THE SPORT ACTIVITIES](#)



Congress Partners



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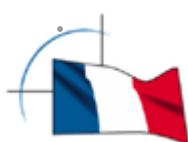


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DES SPORTS**

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SAVOIE
MONT BLANC**



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DU LAC**

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Kyung Sik WOO (Republic of Korea) - 2013-2017



© BÄRBEL VOGEL



© FADI NADER



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UIS BUREAU 2017/2021 in Bohol, Philippines, September 12, 2019.

Left to right: George VENI (President/USA); Satoshi GOTO (Adjunct Secretary/Japan); Efraín MERCADO (Vice-President of Operations/Puerto Rico); Nadja ZUPAN HAJNA (Treasurer/Slovenia); Mladen GARAŠIĆ (Adjunct Secretary/Croatia); Gyula HEGEDUS (Adjunct Secretary/Hungary); Tim MOULDS (Adjunct Secretary/Australia); Zdeněk MOTYČKA (Vice-President of Administration/Czech Republic); Bernard CHIROL (Adjunct Secretary/France), and Nivaldo COLZATO (Adjunct Secretary/Brazil).

Inset photos above: Bärbel VOGEL (Adjunct Secretary/Germany); and Fadi NADER (Secretary General/Lebanon).



LIST OF MEMBER NATIONS as reported by the UIS Treasurer

59 Member Nations

UIS FEES - JANUARY 2020

Paid through

Australia (2020)	Germany (2019)	Netherland (2021)	South Korea (2020)
Belgium (2019)	Greece (2019)	Poland (2019)	Spain (2020)
Brazil (2021)	Hungary (2019)	Portugal (2020)	Sweden (2019)
Canada (2021)	Iran IR (2020)	Puerto Rico (2020)	Ukraine (2021)
China (2019)	Italy (2020)	Romania (2019)	United Kingdom (2020)
Croatia (2019)	Lithuania (2021)	Serbia (2021)	Venezuela (<i>not paying</i>
Czech Republic (2019)	Mexico (2023)	Slovakia (2019)	<i>until 2021 due to</i>
France (2019)	Norway (2021)	Slovenia (2019)	<i>economic crisis</i>)

UIS members with debts for 2019 or more (last payment):

Algeria (2013)	Honduras (2013)	New Zealand (2018)
Argentina (2017; <i>at next Congress</i>)	Indonesia (2017)	Philippines (2017)
Austria (2018)	Israel (2017; <i>at next Congress</i>)	Russia (2017)
Bosnia and Herzegovina (2017)	Japan (2018; <i>at next Congress</i>)	South Africa (2017)
Bulgaria (2018)	Kyrgyzstan (2018)	Switzerland (2018)
Colombia (2015)	Lebanon (2017; <i>at next Congress</i>)	Tukey (2015)
Costa Rica (2018)	Luxemburg (2018)	USA (2018)
Cuba (2017)	Mongolia (2017; <i>paid 4 years in 2018</i>)	Vietnam (2017)

On the way to lose membership in 2020 if they don't pay their fees:

Algeria, Colombia, Honduras, Pakistan, and Turkey

Please indicate WHO is paying for your country - especially if there are two or more speleological associations in your country. The UIS Bureau can't select the payer for your country and we don't return money!!!

If you have a new treasurer or responsible person for payments, please send the new name and e-mail address to zupan@zrc-sazu.si.

We do not know who to contact in some countries or we do not have their proper address.

UPDATE your status now!

CONTACT UIS

UNION INTERNATIONALE DE SPÉLÉOLOGIE
Titov trg 2, 6230 Postona, Slovenia
www.uis-speleo.org

If there are any irregularities, or if you have not found your country in this list, please, [ask the UIS Treasurer](#)

FINANCE

ANNUAL CONTRIBUTIONS

By Nadja ZUPAN HAJNA (Slovenia), *UIS Treasurer* - zupan@zrc-sazu.si

© NADJA ZUPAN HAJNA



Prof. Dr. Nadja ZUPAN HAJNA (Slovenia), *UIS Treasurer*.

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Headquarters of the Karst Research Institute in Postojna, Slovenia, where the offices of the UIS are located. In the detail, the bronze plaque with the emblem of the UIS affixed below the name of the institute.

The UIS General Assembly at the 17th International Congress of Speleology (Sydney, Australia, 2017), approved the amended fee categories of member countries, which are based on the number of speleologists in the national organization or organizations that represent the country to the UIS.

The new annual contributions are as follows, starting after the 17th ICS, Sydney, Australia:

Category A: 2,000 speleologists or more **480 Euros**

Category B: at least 1,000 but fewer than 2,000 **360 Euros**

Category C: at least 100 but fewer than 1,000 ... **240 Euros**

Category D: less than 100 **60 Euros**

If the fees are not paid for more than five years, the Member Country will lose its membership in the UIS.

The UIS Bureau may reduce or waive the fee of a Member Country if the Member Country makes a written request describing the reasons why it is having difficulties making its payments and how long those difficulties are expected to continue. All fee payments and related communications are conducted between the UIS Treasurer and the Member Countries.

UIS BANK ACCOUNT

Account name	Account N°
Mednarodna speleološka zveza-UIS	IBAN SI56 1010 0003 7861 520
Titov trg 2	
6230 Postojna - Slovenia	SWIFT Code: BAKOSI2X
Bank (name and address)	Accepted Currencies:
Intesa Sanpaolo Bank d.d.	EUR (Euros)
Traška 2 - 6230 Postojna - Slovenia	

STATE OF UIS BANK ACCOUNT ON JUNE 30, 2020

EUR - Account balance = 35.662,23

USD - Account balance = 48.522,60

EDITOR'S DISCLOSURE

Before submitting articles, please, refer to the
Guide for Submitting and Publishing Articles in the UIS Bulletin
[CLICK HERE TO DOWNLOAD THE FILE](#)

UIS Bulletin, nor its editors are responsible for:

- misspellings
- wrongly written names
- incorrect articles
- typographical mistakes

Every effort possible has been made to keep all articles as close to the original version.
In some cases, the editors review the structure in order to present the article in a
clear and consistent manner and obvious errors are corrected if found.
We appreciate your understanding.

Should you have any question or comments, please send them to:

uisbulletin@uis-speleo.org


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